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Couple Charged with Animal Cruelty After Cat Allegedly Found with Paws Taped Together

A couple is facing drug and animal abuse charges after deputies say they found them in possession of heroin and a cat with its paws duct-taped in Canyon Country, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Tyler Scott Vest (dob 8/8/92) of Valencia and Kylie Stringer (dob 3/20/89) of Canyon Country each face one misdemeanor count of cruelty to an animal.

Case PAo85466 includes one felony count of possession for sale of a controlled substance, heroin, against Vest and one misdemeanor count of possessing a controlled substance, heroin, against Stringer.

Vest also faces an allegation that he was convicted in 2012 of one misdemeanor count of grand theft from the person of another in case PA074329.

Both defendants are scheduled to be arraigned today in Department S of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, San Fernando Branch. The case was filed yesterday.

On Jan. 9, Los Angeles County sheriff deputies arrested both defendants after police said heroin was found in their vehicle which was parked near Sand Canyon and Soledad Canyon roads, prosecutors said. A cat, with its paws tied and bound together with duct tape, was allegedly found in a pet carrier container found in the vehicle, prosecutors added.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Santa Clarita Station.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.